SOUTH VIET NAM In struggle

SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION INFORMATION COMMISSION

4th year

No 70

August 10 1970

ADDRESS: HT 1217 B-SVN

C/O DAZIMINA HANOI
19, Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi, DRVN
and all RSVN Embassies, Information Offices in foreign countries.

6 NOV 4-1970
Cont Copy

Ceylonese Government Decides Diplomatic Recognition of RSVN

THE Government of Ceylon has granted full diplomatic recognition to the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam as from July 14, 1970. Mrs Sirima RD Bandaranaike, Prime Minister of the Ceylonese Government, and President Huynh Tan Phat of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, have exchanged letters in this connexion.

editorial

SOUTH VIET NAM — INDIA AND CEYLON FRIENDLY TIES STRENGTHENED

LATE in July, RSVN Foreign Minister Nguyen Thi Binh paid friendship visits to the Republic of India and Ceylon at the invitation of the Indian Foreign Ministry and the Government of Ceylon.

Everywhere Madame Nguyen Thi Binh received a warm welcome from the people and political circles. In India, she was the guest of President V. V. Giri, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Foreign Minister Swaran Singh, and in Ceylon the state guest of Mrs Sirima Bandaranaike, Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and Minister of National Defence. In both countries the RSVN Foreign Minister had interviews with eminent political figures and took part in popular gatherings held in her honour.

MINISTER Nguyen Thi Binh's were the first official visits to India and Ceylon by a member of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the RSVN. They marked a new development in the friendly relations between the states concerned. The PRG foreign policy of peace and neutrality has been enlisting increasing support in the world. The Indian and Ceylonese peoples have long since been reserving for the South Vietnamese a deep sympathy and valuable backing. From New Delhi and Colombo voices have been raised, in concert with those of the world's peoples, against American aggression in South Viet Nam, for an immediate withdrawal of US troops and for the South Vietnamese people to settle themselves their own affairs. The overall ten-point solution of the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government as well as the Front's Political Program before it, has been endorsed by progressive opinion in India and Ceylon. The formation of the PRG of the RSVN and the publication of its Program of Action were regarded by the peoples and political circles in the two countries as events of great consequence and land-marks of decisive significance in the development of the patriotic movement in South Viet Nam. Madame Nguyen Thi Binh's visits indicated growing universal sympathy with the just struggle of the South Vietnamese people and the

(continued page 2)

Meeting with Prime Minister at Rosmead Place residence

Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, and Minister of National Defence of Ceylon: Sirima Bandaranaike (photo above), and Foreign Minister of India Swaran Singh (photo below), receiving Madame Nguyen Thi Binh Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam

VIET NAM ANDPF DELEGATION IN HUNGARY

THE Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces delegation headed by its Chairman Mr. Trinh Dinh Thao, Vice-Chairman of the Advisory Council of the PRG of the RSVN arrived in Budapest, on July 28, on a friendship visit to Hungary, at the invitation of the Hungarian Patriotic People's Front.

Present at the airport to welcome Chairman Trinh Dinh Thao and his delegation were Dr Gyula Ortutay, member of the Presidium of the People's Republic of Hungary, Vice-President of the National Council of the Hungarian Patriotic People's Front ; Mme Janose Buger, Deputy Secretary General of the Hungarian Patriotic People's Front ; Dr Laszlo Recrei, Vice-Chairman of the Hungarian Peace Council ; Dr Arpad Prandler, Secretary General of the Association of Hungarian Lawyers ; Mr Andras Gyenes, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Revolutionary Workers' and Peasant' Government .

Mr Dinh Ba Thi, Ambassador of the PRG of the RSVN to the Hungarian People's Republic, Mr Chau Tho Thong Chargé d'Affairs a.i of the DRVN to Hungary, and many officials of the two Embassies were also present at the airport.

Mr Gyula Kallai, President of the National Assembly of the Hungarian People's Republic and President of the Hungarian Patriotic People's Front, received on July 29 the visiting VNANDPF delegation.

In his welcoming speech, Mr Gyula Kallai stressed :

"We highly value the South Vietnamese people's just struggle against US aggression, struggle directed by the NFL and the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government, in which the VNANDPF plays an active role... We take this opportunity to affirm that the Party, State and entire people of Hungary will continue their allround support to the Vietnamese people's fight against US aggression, for the liberation of their country till complete victory. "

In his reply, Chairman Thinh Dinh Thao voiced the sincere gratitude of the South Vietnamese people to the Hungarian Party, Government and people for their wholehearted support to the Vietnamese people's war of resistance against US aggression.

SOUTH VIET NAM — INDIA...

(continued from page 1)

sound position of the NFL and PRG and recognition of their legal status by political circles in many countries.

Her visits were all the more significant as they occurred in the midst of the effervescence of July when the world's peoples were staging widespread actions to support Viet Nam and Indochina against American aggression in commemoration of the signing of the 1954 Geneva Agreements. They have further strengthened solidarity between the RSVN on the one hand, and the Republic of India and Ceylon on the other. The Ceylonese Government has lately recognized the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the RSVN, while, on behalf of the Indian Government, President V. V. Giri and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi voiced sympathy and backing for the righteous cause of the South Vietnamese people.

THE South Viet Nam people, National Front for Liberation and Provisional Revolutionary Government highly rate the friendly gestures of the Indian and Ceylonese peoples and Governments. They look upon them as a major source of encouragement for their assistance to US aggression, and sincerely thank them.

Minister Nguyen Thi Binh's fruitful tours constituted at the same time a blow at the imperialists and their henchmen as Nixon was bending his energies on the implementation of his own doctrine — pitting Asians against Asians. The enemy's reaction was neither slow nor mild as shown by the indiscretion of Saigon's Consulate General in New Delhi and provocations mounted by agents of the ruling Thieu clique in Saigon. They resent India's and Ceylon's friendship for the RSVN and are alarmed by the latter's rising credit in these countries.

The friendship bonds between the peoples of the Republic of South Viet Nam, India and Ceylon are cemented by the same ideal, that of opposition to imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism leaded by the US. Friendship built on such foundations will weather all storms.

SOUTH VIET NAM

We demand the cessation of all maltreatments, outrages and tortures

FOR many years now, the US imperialists and their henchmen in Saigon have applied an inhuman treatment to patriots and political prisoners detained in various jails of South Viet Nam. They have piled up crimes from Phu Loi camp to Chi Hoa jail, from Thu Duc to Poulo Condor (now Con Son) prisons.

In the Poulo Condor prison built in an offshore island of about 30 square kilometres, the US and puppets keep some 15,000 prisoners. And since June 1969, they have shipped materials for a new jail for 10,000 more people.

The US imperialists have on Poulo Condor 12 security and spywar advisors in charge of interrogating and torturing the prisoners and training Saigon agents in the technique. The US has annually supplied to the Poulo Condor prison 442,000 dollars and a huge quantity of modern US equipment for torture. The US aggressors and the Saigon junta strike at the detainees' nervous system with ultra-strong lights and machines, push pins underneath their fingernails, pluck the latter off with pincers, confine the prisoners into dark underground cells, visit most atrocious tortures on hundreds of women internees, give them bad food that causes dysentry, paralysis and tuberculosis, and other diseases. This is aimed at subduing the internees and extracting statements. Most barbarous is that the US and puppets throw into horrible "tiger cages" thousands of patriots who stand for peace and resolutely oppose their dictatorial and fascist regime. In these dark and narrow cages, the guards daily beat the prisoners.

At the press conference held in Washington on July 7 by the US Congress team back from a visit to Poulo Condor on July 2, Representatives Augustus F. Hawkins and William R. Anderson and writer Don Luce confirmed that there are now about 500 men and women detained in « tiger cages » in Poulo Condor prison (the actual figure is 1,200), that the prisoners are jammed inside solid concrete cells about nine feet by five and a half, the men were unable to stand to their full height, "It was the most shocking treatment of human beings I have ever seen," William Anderson stated, (Reuter July 7).

It is known to everybody that the US imperialists and their Saigon henchmen have not only killed South Vietnamese people with shells and bombs including those from B.52 stratigic planes, toxic chemicals, napalm and in extremely barbarous mass slaughters, but also resorted to savage terror and repression to put to a slow death political detainees and other patriots and break their fighting will. Everybody still remembers that in February and March 1969, the US and Saigon lackeys opened fire on over 800 prisoners in Section 6, Camp A, killing or wounding hundreds of them. From early by to March 24, 1969, they tortured over 1,400 women inmates, killing or injuring more than 200 of them. Still fresh in the Vietnamese and world peoples' mind is the mass poisoning on 1956 of some 1,000 detainees in the Phu Loi prison, the murder and wounding with explosive in Tay Ninh jail on June 19, 1969 of nearly 100 patriots, the liquidation of Mrs Le Thi Rieng, Central Committee member of the National Front for Liberation, and Mr Tran Van Kieu, Executive member of the South Viet Nam Liberation Federation of Trade Unions, in Saigon, in early 1968.

Detention, deportation, torture, maltreatment of prisoners especially political prisoners, in various jails of South Viet Nam, most typically Poulo Condor, completely run counter to the Geneva Conventions of 1925 and 1949 on prisoners. The harsh prison regime and such atrocities committed by agents of the US in Poulo Condor have exposed to public opinion in Viet Nam and the world the US — Thieu — Ky dictatorial and fascist regime and the powerlessness, confusion and disintegration of the Saigon traitors' regime.

The Committee for Denunciation of the US Imperialists and their Henchmen's War Crimes in South Viet Nam sternly condemns and denounces to public opinion at home and abroad the following :

1. — "Tiger cages" are found not only in Poulo Condor prison. The ruthless prison regime being applied by the US-puppets in all the areas under their control is in itself a huge "tiger cage."

2. — The measures of detention, deportation and torture of prisoners taken by the US and the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique in various jails, especially Poulo Condor, are no novelty. They are old methods raised to the height of barbarity against those who dare to militate for independence, peace and democratic liberties. Such bestialities are unconceivable to all sane people in the world.

3. — The US imperialists are the instigator of, and direct responsible for, all crimes in South Viet Nam. They cannot escape this responsibility before public opinion at home and in the world.

The Committee for Denunciation of the US Imperialists and their Henchmen's War Crimes in South Viet Nam urgently calls on all governments, peace-and justice-loving people in the world, international democratic organizations, and the progressive people in the United States to strongly denounce for the sake of peace, humanity and man's right to live the prison regime and the "tiger cage" system in Poulo Condor and take timely and effective actions to stay Thieu-Ky-Khiem's blood-stained hands in the South Viet Nam prisons.

We demand that the US and its Saigon henchmen :

1. — Abolish at once the present harsh prison regime in South Viet Nam.

2. — Pull down immediately the extremely savage "tiger cages", supply medical care to the sick prisoners and give humane treatment to the detainees.

3. — Set free immediately all peace-loving people illegally arrested, and end all tortures against the internees.

4. — Stop maltreatment, outrages and other barbarous methods against women prisoners in the South Viet Nam jails.

Now as in the past, the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam always treat humanely, and show leniency toward, people of the other side captured by them, with the aim of educating them and helping them distinguish the right from the wrong and contribute to the struggle against US aggression, for national salvation.

How can the US imperialists and their flunkeys in Saigon conceal and deny their crimes already exposed to the tribunal of public opinion and justice? No barbarous and inhuman acts can avert the total collapse of the Thieu-Ky rotten regime which cannot survive without US guns and dollars.

The more brutal they are, the more the US and puppets are pouring oil on the flames of the people's patriotic war now rising throughout South Viet Nam. He who sows the wind will reap the whirlwind. The flames of anger of the 31 million Vietnamese will surely consume the bestial Thieu-Ky-Khiem gang and make them to pay for their bloody crimes.

In the flush of their big successes, the 17 millions South Vietnamese are resolved to rush forward, overcome all difficulties and hardships and wipe out many more US, puppet and satellite troops so as to avenge their countrymen killed by the US-puppets. This is a practical step to back the valiant and indomitable struggle of the detainees in Poulo Condor and the other prisons in South Viet Nam.

(Statement of the Committee for Denunciation of US-Puppet War Crimes in South Viet Nam)

World opinion:

NIXON IS TO BLAME FOR CON SON CRUELTIES

AMERICAN and world opinion continues to bare and condemn the brutalities against South Vietnamese patriots detained in Con Son (Poulo Condor) and other prisons.

In the US, representative J. Connor declared before Congress that the revealed atrocities once against pointed to the cruelty of the Saigon regime supported by the Nixon Administration.

Mr. J. Connor stressed that the inhuman treatment, now brought to public knowledge, of prison inmates in South Viet Nam, was not an isolated case. It exposes the nature of an administration which can survive only thanks to terroristic measures, he said.

The American congressman denounced that the Nixon Administration sought to conceal the said atrocities and continued to provide money for the building of gaols in South Viet Nam.

In Cairo, on July 22, Mr. Yousef El Sebai, Secretary - General of Afro - Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization, published a declaration flaying Saigon's detention regime and other terroristic measures — including tiger cages as part and parcel of the criminal policy of the Americans and the puppet administration against patriots and the people as a whole in South Viet Nam. He saw all that as inseparable component of the US aggressive policy. The Secretariat of the Afro - Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization, the declaration emphasized, strongly denounces and condemns the penitentiary and tiger cage systems in Poulo Condor. The full blame for this horrible prison regime must be placed on US imperialists. Although they and their lackeys have moved a number of detainees from Poulo Condor, they cannot escape responsibility for the torturing and killing of South Vietnamese patriots there. The only way to end such atrocities is to terminate the aggressive war in Viet Nam, pull out all US and satellite troops from South Viet Nam so as to let the South Vietnamese people settle their own affairs without foreign interference.

The declaration called on all member countries, all democratic organizations, all freedom-loving people, all those who hold dear human dignity, and all men of conscience in Asia, African and the world to expose the US imperialist aggressors and their valets in South Viet Nam and to take every effective measure to stay their criminal hands, to force them into ending their most barbarous prison regime, pulling down immediately the tiger cages in Poulo Condor, and liberating all those who are illegally detained in all official or disguised prisons in South Viet Nam.

In France, in an article entitled "The American budget and prisons in South Viet Nam" by correspondent Jacques Ducornoy, *Le Monde* (July 20) showed with data since 1969, that Washington had financed the Saigon administration, and provided equipment, training and direction for the building of the prison network in South Viet Nam.

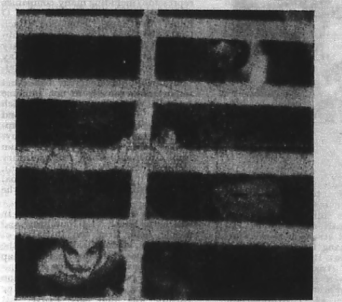
The paper revealed that the US had given 6, 761,000 dollars as salaries for 178 American advisers and 45 from satellite countries, involved in the torturing of detainees.

Recalling the press conference by American congressmen Anderson and Hawkins in Washington on the Con Son horrors, the paper wrote:

"The revelation of the detention conditions in Poulo Condor has led a number of American Congressmen to raise the question of Washington's financing the prison network in South Viet Nam... The fact that the accurate figures mentioned above have not yet been made public shows that in carefully distributing the money spent and advisers, Washington was perfectly aware of the penitentiary system in South Viet Nam and the tortures used in detention camps and prisons. However, it has taken a public scandal to give one real concern over the detention conditions that various declarations by the National Front for Liberation and documents of the Bertrand Russell had already amply dealt with."

According to Western news agencies, on July 8 Senators Gudell and Cooper also disclosed that the American administration appropriated 442,000 dollars every year for the same purpose in South Viet Nam.

The article of *Le Monde*, as a whole series of other stories in Western press, has thrown a strong light on Washington's attempt to shift the responsibility for the atrocities committed onto the Saigon regime.



South Vietnamese patriots detained in the "tiger cages" by US-puppets

US crime record:

"CHIN HAM"

FOLLOWING is a story which sheds a lurid light on the fate of thousands of men and women from five provinces — Quang Tri, Thua Thien, Quang Nam, Quang Tin and Quang Ngai — at the hands of the Americans and their agents at "Chin Ham." It was recounted to our correspondent by 39 - year - old Phan Chau, a victim rescued from this infamous place.

Chau said: "Nobody knows how many people have been killed at "Chin Ham." There must be many, a great many. The mere sound of the name of this cursed place sends a shiver down my spine."

"I am a native of Thua Thien and it was near 'Chin Ham' that my family and I lived. Sometime in 1955 the Yanks and their agents cleared the area of all its population and surrounded it with several fences of barbed wire. Known first as a 'off limits area', it was later commonly called 'Chin Ham.'

'Chin Ham' is located in Thuy An village, Huong Thuy district, Thua Thien province, 7 miles to the south west of Hue. Enclosed by three hills all around, it is a little more than three hectares large. To build it, the Yanks and the puppets brought in workers they had rounded up in Hue and several districts of Thua Thien — among them relatives and brothers of mine. Now, sixteen years later, none of them has come back, not even for a short visit to his family. Not a few relatives of theirs had called on the local authorities for news about them, but the invariable answer they would get was: 'They're busy with important construction work. State secret!'.

While we were having dinner — February 25, 1968 — there was a knock at the door. Even before I stood up, it was forced wide open and several men in striped clothes rushed in, pistols and daggers in hands. Followed several GIs, one of them, as fat as a hog, puffing at his cigarette. No sooner had this one said a few words than the Yanks fell on me, blind-folded me and tied my hands. I was then taken to a car in the midst of cries of the members of my family. After a long ride, I was pushed out by a puppet soldier.

'Old man', he said, 'do you still say that you love peace?'

And he added, before I answered: 'On our American adviser's orders, you've been brought here at 'Chin Ham'. Want to say anything before you die?'

'I haven't done anything wrong...'

Before I finished my sentence, the thugs beat me to unconsciousness with sticks and rifle butts. When I came to, one of them took the bandage off my eyes.

'This is 'Chin Ham', he said 'you'll lie here at rest for ever with your love for peace.'

Another soldier, a pistol in one hand and a flash-light in the other, led me down a deep, narrow, winding underground lane. At a point, I had to wade knee-deep in the water. And how horribly it stank!

'Stop!' cracked an order. Which cave do you like best, old man? There are more than 1,750 of them down here. All alike.'

When I looked up, the soldier exclaimed: 'Ah! like this one better! Get in then!'. Then he opened the door, pushed me in, and banged it shut.

It was pitch dark inside. I could soon see however that the ceiling and the walls of the cave were bristling with sharp nails and that the bottom was all but water and mud and... human corpses. As the ceiling was too low, I could not stand upright. Nor could I lean against the walls. Moreover, water trickled down contitunously on my head. The cold I thus caught and the stinking smell made me faint.

When I came to, I saw five young men, rifles slung over their shoulders, and each with a cotton soft-brim hat of the Liberation troops. I screamed out of fright.

'No fear!', One of them told me. 'We've come to help you out of this hell.'

"I was thus brought to the PLAF quarters where, thanks to a year of medical treatment I slowly recovered. But my nerves still remain more or less affected. Here I met Miss Nguyen Thi Phu, Miss Nguyen Thi Canh — both twenty-two years old — and others, who had witnessed almost the same things, and experienced the same horrors as I did at 'Chin Ham'.

It is here that thousands and thousands of patriots from the five provinces of the so-called 'First Tactical Area' have been killed without the knowledge of the public. What is known as 'Chin Ham' is nothing but a huge grave where patriots are condemned to a slow death in most horrible conditions, without any trial."

July, 1970

PLAF DEADLY BLOWS

BEGINNING the second half of 1970, the enemy changed an important part of his strategic set up and worked out a plan to furbish the puppet army and administration.

At the end of June, the quislings admitted for the first time that they had to "vamp up the structure" of the puppet army and "the pacification program had been proceeding so slowly and meeting with so great difficulties", that they would have to shift to a "special program of pacification" in the second half of 1970.

The "reorganization" of the puppet army has proved that it is no match for guerilla warfare now in full development and for the Liberation regular army in their various campaigns. As the puppet troops are spread thin, how can they be "mobile" enough to do rescue work everywhere? This is a "thorny" problem, a dilemma for the Pentagon and the Saigon puppet command. What Nixon called "progress of the Vietnamization program" is in fact its near failure.

That gloomy military picture of the US and quislings in South Viet Nam has been vividly reflected by Western agencies. *AFP* reported on June 17: "The northern area (Quang Tri, Thua Thien, Hue) is at present more threatened than any other localities. They (the PLAF, Ed.) have infiltrated the seacoast; military operations increased 400 per cent." BBC said on June 18 that the Saigon army was on the defensive, the situation in Central Viet Nam was more serious than in any other area.

In face of this fix, the since end of June, after their pull out from Cambodia, the US troops have had to fall back and build a defence line around Saigon and some units of the Saigon puppet marines, back from Cambodia, have had to be sent to Da Nang area. As a substitute for their ground forces bogged down everywhere, the Americans used air force and artillery, especially B.52 strategic bombers and long-range cannons from their warships to bombard indiscriminately thousands of times populated areas in the Mekong delta, in the plains in Central Trung Bo and in the Quang Tri, Thua Thien and Hue sector.

It is clear that through this scheme, the enemy strove to overcome the new weak points which emerged after the first six months of 1970 when he suffered heavy human and material losses at the hands of the South Vietnamese army and people. Especially, after his military venture in Cambodia, the three Indochinese peoples have dealt him hard blows and landed him in a military and political quandary of strategic significance.

Through this scheme it is all the more transparent that the US aggressors are very diehard politicians and adventurous military in their attempt to drag out their war of aggression in South Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos.

But it was in June and early July, that the South Vietnamese people stepped up their attacks. As soon as they were routed in Cambodia and withdrawn to South Viet Nam, the GIs and puppet troops were intercepted by the PLAF on the borderland: an armoured car group and a column of military vehicles of the US 11th Armoured Regiment were wiped out west and north of Ca Tum with 300 enemy troops and 90 vehicles (mostly tanks and armoured cars) put out of action. Even when digging in in his base, the enemy was not immune to devastating actions such as the case of the First Regiment of the US 25th Infantry Division at Trang Lon. In fact, the base of this division south of Tay Ninh was bombarded by the PLAF who destroyed many fortifications and touched off a big fire.

In mid-July, to save Battalion-group No 333 beleaguered by Cambodian patriotic forces at Krech (Kompong Cham), the US and Saigon commands dispatched there many rescue parties, supported by tanks and armoured cars and escorted by several companies of puppet troops. At Xa Mat, one kilometre from the Cambodian border, on Road 22, the enemy reinforcements were completely wiped out by the PLAF who destroyed 130 vehicles and killed 600 enemy soldiers; meanwhile the US gun-emplacement at Xa Mat cross-roads was also blotted out. With this feat, the PLAF deprived the enemy of a big fire power supporting the defence system constituted by the posts of Thien Ngon, Xa Mat (Tay Ninh province) and Ta Hien, Krech (Kompong Cham province) on Road No 22.

Like in their defence system in Eastern Nam Bo, the American forces who operated in the hilly region of Quang Tri — Thua Thien to "forestall PLAF attacks from afar" also suffered heavy setbacks. They set up an enclave on Hill 935, 40 km west of Hue, as a defence base in this mountain area and also an operational base to prevent PLAF assaults. On their part, the puppet regular troops operated north of Highway No 9 (North of Quang Tri) and the puppet strategic reserve forces west of Quang Da (Ben Giang — Kham Duc area). But both American and "allied" troops took heavy casualties. As a matter of fact, in 23 days of uninterrupted activities, the Thua-Thien PLAF drubbed the enemy on Hill 935, inflicting 1,700 American casualties, decimating the US Third Airborne Regiment, downing or destroying one fourth of the total number of aircraft of the US 101st Airborne Division. While the GIs were battered on Hill 935, the puppet troops hurriedly called off their operations west of Highway No 9, and the puppet reserve forces who were wriggling out of their predicament west of Quang Da were also mown down by the hundreds by the guerillas.

Mountains and rivers cannot prevent PLAF advances

Thus, the enemy's defence lines either shrunk back round urban centres or extended to check our thrusts, were overrun by the PLAF and proved incapable of protecting his important bases from their attacks. As a result, guerilla warfare was stepped up in the plains and the seacoast areas and continued to destroy the enemy's forces of repression from military sub-sectors to "strategic hamlets."

The "pacification" operations conducted by the enemy in the plains in Central Trung Bo and Nam Bo were always intercepted by the PLAF who disputed with the enemy hamlet by hamlet. The "pacification" program, forces of repression and operations in support of "pacification," were thwarted even in "priority pacification" areas in Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Can Tho, Bac Lieu and Ca Mau. Remarkable was the fact that the local PLAF were able to defend and expand the liberated zone and to wipe out thousands of men of the brutal forces of repression (including many companies and platoons) in such battles as O Lam (An Giang), Hon Soc (Rach Gia), the Song Doc military sub-sector (Ca Mau), the Cau Ke military sub-sector (Tra Vinh), My Phuoc Tay (My Tho), Giong Trom (Ben Tre).

Meanwhile adverse rear bases and important organs were not immune from PLAF artillery shellings which hit the "Independence" palace and other big bases of the US and puppet divisions at hamlet 5, My Thuy, Dong Lam, Mang Ca (Hue), Cam Ranh (Khanh Hoa), the military sector at Song Mao (Binh Thuan), Phuoc Vinh (north of Bien Hoa) etc., causing heavy damage to the enemy.

To sum up, July was a month in which the South Viet Nam army and people held firm the initiative of operations, made a flexible use of the three kinds of armies and kept up their actions on the three fronts — military, political and persuasion work among the enemy. The striking feature was that the PLAF hit accurately at the enemy' weak points and exposures on the battlefields, and aggravated them, thereby creating favourable conditions for them to knock out important enemy's forces.

IN THE CITIES

WHERE LIES SOCIAL CORRUPTION?

SUCH is the title of the Saigon Cong Luan *editorial of June 29, 1970 dealing with the social crisis under the Thieu - Ky - Khiem regime.*

Wrote the article: "For years social corruption has become a national preoccupation, an objective of many campaigns, but it still remains the cause of the depravation in the Republic of Viet Nam (US-puppet regime, Ed).

The reason is that social corruption has been raised to a system and consolidated into a part of the political life.

It manifests itself in graft, political profiteering, dependence on foreigners... It has built its power, organized violence, and abolished all vital freedoms, thus robbing the South Vietnamese of their elementary rights."

The article recalled the process of the struggle between 1963 and 1970 by various social segments still living under US-puppet control, and went on:

"The movements between 1963 and 1970 have been all aimed at eliminating all social rottenness to help Viet Nam flourish, and provide the Vietnamese nation with an opportunity to conquer its self-determination, but they have been repressed, calumniated, distorted and stamped out precisely to preserve this degradation. It has been cultivated to undermine the life of the people and maintain the present rule. Now it even dominates the Houses by the might of money. No wonder that the people have lost confidence in the political life of a regime in which power can be bought by the leading bodies.

Social rottenness springs from alien regimes, administration and power: the Vietnamese people (i.e. the population in the US-puppet temporarily-controlled zone, Ed.) *have fallen victims to a whole process of moral corrosion.*

If now culture declines, the society rots, morality goes bust, all spiritual value is destroyed, it is the fault of unsound political regimes. Therefore, the blame for it is on the policies of those at the helm of the Viet Nam Republic (US-puppet regime, Ed) *between 1954 and 1970."*

In the liberated zone

TO RAISE MEN

BY a cool summer evening, the outboard motor boat of the liaison agent glided on the Giong Trom canal among the people's boats and sampans. Sitting beside me, Van — a member of the Front Committee and inspector of the provincial educational service — stared at the immense sky, then at the straight rows of coconut-trees mirroring in the water, and proudly told me the story of his native province of Ben Tre, the standard-bearer of the 1960 concerted uprisings in South Viet Nam and a province credited with many glorious achievements in the fighting and production especially in the "grow trees and raise men" drive over the past ten years.

Said Van: "The American aggressors have brought weapons and dollars to our country to turn it into a moonlike desert land and drive our people back to the stone age... In this blazing province of Ben Tre like on this canal the coconut-trees, the water, the fields, the houses were expected to be devastated by artillery bombardments and chemical bombs! Over 50,000 coconut-trees in Giong Trom district, Bao island looked as good as ruined after a raid! Who can forget the scene of 27 people in Giong Keo stabbed to death by puppet soldiers! The desperate call of a four-year old girl "Mom! Mom! Help! Help! It's so hot!" still rings in the air!"

Van became silent. In front of us, three motor boats appeared, filled with pioneers in uniform singing victory songs. Gazing affectionately at the youngsters, Van told me that they were pupils of Vinh Phuc elementary school (named after Ben Tre's sworn sister province in North Viet Nam). At first, I had thought they belonged to the seven-year Dance School of the Information and Culture Ministry and came here to rehearse some scenes for their "graduation papers" and celebrate their end of term.

We landed under a starry sky. At my request, Van directed me to Linh Phung hamlet, whose primary school had been destroyed by US incendiary bombs seven years ago. Now it was rebuilt near the canal in the shade of coconut-trees. The headmaster — a 30-year old man — received us in his office. He showed us his year-end report which was to be presented the next day to the pupils' parents then forwarded to the provincial educational service. The report read:

"Acting upon President Ho Chi Minh's teaching: 'Let us grow trees if we think in terms of ten years and let us raise men if we think in terms of a hundred years,' and fulfilling the pledge: 'Hang on to the class, hang on to the school, teach well, learn well' put forth by the educational service in the meeting of 37 principals of general education schools at the beginning of the school year, the Linh Phung school has recorded fine achievements: 95 to 100 per cent of 1,200 pupils of the village have passed their exams.

On seeing me jotting down the figure, the headmaster stressed that it was due not only to the teachers' efforts but also to all the villagers, for the people at Linh Phung like in the whole Ben Tre province thirst for learning. In the building of our education and in the crucible of the fight against US aggression, the teachers in the liberated zone promoted to the utmost our tradition of fighting ignorance in order to "raise men."

I looked at the bullet scars on the coconut-trees in front of the yard, at the US bullet-pierced books and tiny sandals kept as "souvenirs" on a table in a corner of the principal's bureau, and at two clumsy pastel drawings by a pupil of the fifth grade hung on the wall.

The first one showed a group of school children studying in the light of a kerosene lamp with a cat sitting beside them in a trench.

The second one portrayed a pretty-eyed girl tied to a coconut-tree with a big fire around and two tall GIs standing nearby gluttonously drinking coconut-milk.

Leaving the headmaster and Van, I paid homage to the little "artist" who succeeded in making people love and hate and remembered these words of the old teacher, the director of the Linh Phung school: "Loving the trade, loving the youth, I have worked twenty years in this blazing Ben Tre under enemy destruction. The coconut-trees are still green, the school is still functioning, and myself a pen in one hand, a rifle in the other, I keep on "raising men."

M. PHUONG

Pupils of Nguyen Van Troi school attending classes on hammocks.

Agricultual achievements

— PARALLEL to the aggression against Cambodia, the US-puppets have stepped up devastating attacks on the Tay Ninh province liberated area. But the local people, braving all hardships and difficulties caused by enemy actions, have continued their farming and completed transplanting the 10th lunar month rice on the whole acreage. Those in Thanh Dien have left fertile ricefields to be grown with the 10th lunar month rice by Cao Dai farmers whose land had been grabbed by the US-puppets.

— Peasants of nearly all villages of Kien Binh district, Kien Tuong province, have bent their efforts on leveling bomb craters and removing barbed wire, to clear 1,000 hectares for rice growing. Many peasant families who had been penned up in "strategic hamlets" at the beginning of the year, have put up an obstinate struggle and forced the enemy to let them return to their villages by the beginning of this season's farm work. Members of those families have cooperated with the rest of the district's peasants to raise the rice acreage by 70 per cent compared with 1969.

— Peasants of villages in Chau Thanh A district, Rach Gia province, have increased the area under rice of the 10th lunar month kind five times compared with last year.

To provide the peasants with facilities for farm work and ensure a bumper harvest revolutionary committees at village level have allotted them an additional 6,000 hectares of land and helped them with a great quantity of farm tools.

— Defying all enemy "sweeps" and round-the-clock bombardments, peasants around My Tho provincial capital have organized themselves to reclaim 75 hectares of fallow land and put them under the 10th lunar month rice. They have also restored to tree-planting 68 hectares of orchards formerly devastated by the enemy, and successfully resisted forced labour and toxic chemical sprayings while endeavouring to complete in time their cultivation.

TRUE FEATURES OF US-PUPPET SELF-STYLED "COMMITTEE OF RELIEF"

WHILE Vietnamese nationals in Cambodia were slaughtered and persecuted by the Lon Nol — Sirik Matak clique, the Saigon puppet authorities, putting on a mask of charity, set up a so-called "Committee of Relief for Vietnamese Residents" and staged a "repatriation" farce to force thousands of Vietnamese in Cambodia back to South Viet Nam. They clamourously called on the people to "organize relief work for Vietnamese residents, see to their bed and board and make them feel comfortable in their homeland, etc."

In fact, over the last months Vietnamese nationals forcibly repatriated to South Viet Nam have been living in dire straits. Almost all of them have had to build for themselves makeshift huts and tents, sometimes on sand. Many families were robbed by the US-puppets of all their belongings, each person was left with only some clothing, and the children exposed to sun and rain fell victims to all kinds of disease. Epidemics are rampant, but the puppet authorities seem to ignore them and provide no medical care.

What is more revolting still, the US-puppets took advantage of the "repatriation of Vietnamese nationals" to organize a "fund-raising campaign" in favour of the latter. The proceeds of this campaign of course were pocketed by the organizers themselves.

Vietnamese nationals chased order of Cambodia were penned up in South Viet Nam's "strategic hamlets" by the US-puppets. Young people were induced by deception or enrolled by force into the puppet army to serve as cannon fodder in furtherance of the "Vietnamization" program.

Indignant at the US-puppet criminal deeds, Vietnamese nationals returning from Cambodia have jointed efforts with locale population in overcoming difficulties and denouncing the enemy's dark designs. They have been pressing for distribution of rice and medicines, and a guarantee for decent living conditions.

As they have come to realize that at the bottom of all their sufferings lies the policy of the US aggressors and their Saigon henchmen, they have, by the hundreds, tried by all means to escape from the regime of US-puppet near-detention and join the liberated areas to take part in the resistance war waged by all the South Vietnamese people against US aggression to eradicate the root of evil.

Laos:

Nearly 12,000 enemy troops wiped out in first half of this year

ACCORDING to still incomplete figures, in the first six months of this year, the Lao patriotic armed forces and people fought over 4,000 battles; putting out of action nearly 12,000 enemy troops, among those killed or wounded were over 500 US and Thai military "advisers." In terms of units, 73 enemy battalions were knocked out or heavily decimated.

The Lao patriotic forces also seized 6,541 arms of various kinds, and 142 radio transmitters, captured or destroyed 261 military vehicles including 100 tanks and armoured cars, shot down or destroyed on the ground nearly 300 US aircraft, blew up 20 important bridges on Highways 9 and 13 and in other areas, sank or damaged 14 motor-boats, destroyed a radar installation, and burned down nearly 1,000 enemy barracks.

There feats testified to the fact that to whatever degree of fierceness the US imperialists and their lackeys may bring their war of aggression in Laos, they cannot evade ignominious failures.

Cambodia:

The US Aggressors Strike at Angkor Temple

FOLLOWING the bombing of June 26, 1970, on Udong temple, ancient capital of the Kingdom of Cambodia, a well-known historic vestige comprising many old shrines 40 km north of Phnom Penh, "Allied planes (of the Americans and their lackeys in Saigon, Bangkok and Phnom Penh, Ed.) have been attacking the Angkor temples area on a routine basis, inflicting casualties on the population. Over the last ten days, the planes have hit the main temples area, killing three people. The aircraft fire at everything that moves," a UP dispatch on July 27 said.

Thus, defying the strong protest and condemnation of the Royal Government of National Union, the Information Bureau of the National Union Front of Kampuchea and world opinion, the US imperialists and their lackeys in Saigon, Bangkok and Phnom Penh have committed a new crime against the Cambodian people and mankind.

This gave lie to the US-puppet claim that they were striving "to defend the independence and neutrality" of Cambodia, and the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique's declaration of "Angkor as an open town and claim to restraint from military operations there for fear of damaging the temples." This vandalism of the American aggressors and their lackeys will unquestionally invite severe punishment and strong condemnation from the Khmer people and progressive opinion the world over.

LAO – CAMBODIAN JOINT COMMUNIQUE

TALKS were held in Sam Neua on July 23 between the delegation of the Lao Patriotic Front Central Committee and that of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia at the conclusion of the latter's friendship visit to the Lao liberated zone, RPL reported.

A joint communique was issued at the end of the talks. It was stressed in the document that "the two sides had reached unanimity of views on all problems of mutual concern.

The two sides were of one mind in holding that the criminal war the US imperialists had been widening to the whole of Indochina constituted the crudest violation of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Indochina and the 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos, and posed an ever more serious threat to peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world.

The communiqué severely criticized the US scheme to prolong the occupation of Cambodia's territory, escalate the war of aggression in Laos through repeated incursions into the areas under the control of the Lao Patriotic forces, and massive bombings of the Lao territory which had been inflicting innumerable deaths and considerable destruction on the Lao people. The escalation of the aggressive war by Nixon in Laos constitutes the immediate obstacle preventing the Lao parties concerned from meeting to settle the Lao conflict, the communique stressed.

The two sides strongly condemned the feverish "Vietnamization" of the war carried out by the Nixon administration with a view to dragging out its war of aggression, perpetuating American occupation there and keeping Viet Nam divided for a long time as well as the gross acts of aggression against the sovereignty and security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

The two sides unanimously noted that, in face of the broadened aggression by the US imperialists, the Khmer, Lao and Vietnamese peoples, armed with the spirit of the Indochinese Peoples' Summit Conference, have recorded new successes both military and political, of greater significance than ever in the struggle against US aggression, for national salvation.

The two sides took the view that the militant friendship between the Khmer, Lao and Vietnamese peoples which springs from the close time-honoured relations of militant solidarity in the combat against common enemies, was now stronger than ever before, as a result of the Indochinese People's Summit Conference.

The communiqué reaffirmed the determination of the Lao and Khmer peoples to help step up South Viet Nam's resistance against US aggression for national salvation and made clear their position on the South Viet Nam issue as follows:

"The two sides affirmed that the South Viet Nam issue must be settled on the basis of the 10-point overall solution advanced by the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government, the US must withdraw quickly, totally and unconditionally US troops and foreign troops depending on the US from South Viet Nam, and strictly respect the sovereignty and security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam."

July 1970:

A month of world support to Viet Nam against US Aggression

FOLLOWING the May and early June earth – shaking days of outcries and protest marches by millions of people against the US imperialists' dragging out the war in South Viet Nam, escalating the war in Laos and invading Cambodia, the world peoples' movement of support to the peoples of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia kept on rising and deepening in July on the occasion of the 16th anniversary of the signing of the Geneva Agreements on Indochina (July 20) in most varied ways: demonstrations, meetings, declarations of support from international, regional, national organizations, "weeks, months of solidarity with the peoples of Viet Nam and Indochina against US aggression", film shows, exhibitions on the life and fighting of the South Vietnamese people, collections of money for these.

For over a month, the world peoples have expressed their determination to side with the Vietnamese people against US aggression: statements, resolutions of the USSR Supreme Soviet eighth session, meeting of the World Federation of Trade Unions, meeting of Representatives of Asian Buddhists, meeting of the President of the World Peace Council, ninth meeting of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, Conference of Workers of the Baltic countries, Norway and Iceland, joint declarations between Sudan and German Democratic Republic, Sudan and Bulgaria, USSR and Congo, USSR and Sweden, USSR and United Arab Republic, Rumania and Central African Republic, Korea and Algeria.... big demonstrations in the capitals and many towns of Finland, Norway, Denmark, Luxemburg, Switzerland, Austria, West Germany, Britain, France, Italy, Canada, Peru, Brazil, Colombia, Japan, Australia, the Philippines, Cameroon, Somalia, and right in the United States. Every day the world rings with shouts: "Support Viet Nam", "Oppose US imperialist aggression."

The statement of the first meeting of the USSR Supreme Soviet eighth session, made clear that:

"The Soviet people constantly side with the peoples of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia now waging a selfless struggle against aggression, for freedom and independence."

"Fraternally united with the peoples of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia, the Soviet people demand that the American Government end its aggressive acts in Indochina. The USSR Supreme Soviet calls on members of Parliament in all countries and all people of good will to raise their voices against US aggression in Indochina, and firmly insist that all US and allied troops be rapidly and unconditionally withdrawn from Indochina to let the Indochinese people shape their own destiny without any foreign interference."

The resolution of the Meeting of the World Federation of Trade Unions held in Versailles wrote:

"No force, no threat can shake their iron determination (of the three Indochinese peoples) to fight and defeat the American aggressors and their stooges. They enjoy the support of all socialist countries, of the world working class, and of all nations and people that cherish peace and justice the world over."

The resolution also called on the labouring people and trade-unions throughout the globe "to seek and take the most efficient actions in each country such as meetings, demonstrations, strikes, including refusal to load and unload or carry weapons and other war material for the American aggressors' dirty war in Indochina, increase of material support with the stepping up of collections of money, medicines, cloth, means of transport, foodstuffs, school requisites... A movement in support of the Indochinese peoples beginning this July 20, anniversary of the signing of the Geneva Agreements," has been decided.

In the demonstrations and meetings, popular opposition ran very high as shown by various slogans like "Not to support Viet Nam is inhuman", "US imperialists, hands off Viet Nam". despite repression unleashed by pro-US reactionary administrations in certain countries like West Germany... In other countries, the demonstrators protested the ruling authorities' assistance to US aggression against Viet Nam.

Besides their political and moral support, the world peoples also gave the South Vietnamese a considerable material aid: the French people sent the Vietnamese people an amount of money and medicines worth 25 million francs; the Italian toiling people collected 40 million liras in the first drive of the "campaign of solidarity with the Vietnamese labouring people and population"; the International Organization of Journalists has decided to present a printing complex to the Vietnamese.

"To support Viet Nam has really become the preoccupation of the 'hearts and minds' of the German Democratic Republic people", said Vice Premier Max Sefrin, President of the Viet Nam Committee of the German Democratic Republic at the 5th founding commemoration of the Committee on July 17, 1970. Such a view has been shared by the world peoples in the recent past.

On the anniversary of the Thai Patriotic uprising (August 7)

New impetus, outstanding successes

FIVE years ago, the August 7, 1965 armed insurrection of Thai patriots in Nabua hamlet, Renu village, That Phanom district, Nakhon Phanom province, stepped up to a higher degree of fierceness the movement of the Thai people against the American imperialists and the Thanom-Praphas puppet clique.

Since then, despite many difficulties and hardships, it has been steadily progressing. With a judicious leadership and wholehearted popular help, the patriotic Thai armed forces have intensified armed propaganda work, set up revolutionary bases and built up their forces in the course of the fighting. They have foiled many enemy raids, ambushed and wiped out enemy patrols, attacked enemy posts, and even struck at a number of US military bases, inflicting many adverse losses. Over the last five years, they have fought 3,220 engagements, big and small (including 3 assaults on airfields), knocked out 5,950 enemy troops, downed and damaged 138 planes. At present, the movement has spread to 35 out of the 71 provinces of Thailand.

According to the *Voice of the Thai people*, in the first six months of this year, the Thai people's liberation troops beat off enemy raids and successfully attacked the adversary, fought 350 engagements, inflicted on him 600 casualties, downed and damaged 32 planes, destroyed 20 military vehicles, razed many posts and captured a big haul of weapons.

Impatient of the harsh rule of the American imperialists and the Thanom Praphas authorities, both the urban and rural masses have staged repeated actions for better living conditions, against land grabbing and house eviction to build military bases, against oppression and exploitation, for democratic freedoms... Since the beginning of 1968, nearly one million participations by workers, peasants, students and pupils in 1,091 such demonstrations have been recorded. Opposition to the American interventionists and their lackeys from social segments and circles has also grown vigorously. On January 1st, 1970, 300 political activists in Bangkok urged that the Americans close their military bases and withdraw their troops from Thailand. From July 1st to 9, 1970, six big demonstrations of students from six universities in Bangkok, Xiengmai, Ayouthia and Korat involving over 10,000 people erupted against tax increases, the harsh regime in the universities and the sending of troops to Cambodia. Newsmen held meetings to demand the abolition of eight current press laws, to put forward a 14-article new act and particularly to ask for a say in the elaboration of this law...

Such new advances of the patriotic drive have been met with more brutalities of the American imperialists and the Thai authorities. Big forces up to tens of thousands of troops supported by planes, tanks and guns, have been thrown into large-scale raids on the patriotic armed forces. A most reactionary policy suppressing all democratic freedoms has been enforced. Fantastic stories of "Communist (1) intrusion into Thailand" have been fabricated to justify US aggression against Cambodia and serve as pretext for victimization of Vietnamese residents and Thai patriots. However, no trick of the American imperialists and their agents can cover up the traitorous nature of the Thanom-Praphas clique who has let US imperialism freely occupy Thailand and trample upon the fine Thai cultural traditions, who has sold the lives of Thai youths for US dollars in the US aggressive war against Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia. The Thai people's patriotic drive, tempered in the past five years of bitter trial and impelled forward by many successes is likely to gain momentum instead of being put out.

Combating in the same forefront against the US aggressors and their lackeys for independence and freedom, the South Viet Nam people welcome the Thai people's achievements as their own. They reaffirm their resolute backing to the cause of the Thai people, and the deep confidence that with the sympathy and support of the Indochinese peoples and world progressives, it will certainly achieve substantial gains.

(1) *Cambodian liberation troops, South Viet Nam liberation troops, North Viet Nam troops.*

Two Chula students take a satirical poke at the military before the annual Chula-Thammayut football match at the National Stadium. The sailor carrying the US flag and gun wears a placard saying "Yankee". Chained to him and being pulled along is a student dressed in Royal Army garb wearing a placard reading "Thai military". Postwiy by Bamruno.

In brief

● On July 22, the Congress of Massachusetts State sent a request to the US Supreme Court to condemn the US war in Viet Nam as contrary to US Constitution.

● Up to now Americans have collected half a million dollars and sent them to the Committee on Amendment to End the War set up by Senators McGovern and Hatfield, in support of the movement for an early withdrawal of US troops from Viet Nam.

● More than 2 million Americans have signed a petition in support of the amendment proposed by Senators McGovern and Hatfield which urges total withdrawal of GIs from South Viet Nam.

● On July 24 while Nixon was passing through Fargo (Dakota), 2,000 people there staged a demonstration against him. They carried slogans against the war of aggression in Viet Nam and demanded that Nixon accept a coalition government in South Viet Nam. Fargo is a city known for its "Republican sympathy" and composed mostly of people Nixon would include in his "great silent majority."

● On July 14, Senator E. Muskie, Democrat, tabled a resolution condemning the inhuman and barbarous treatment of political prisoners detained in "tiger cages" in Con Son jail.

● Nelson, an advisor to the US Delegation to the UN, has resigned in protest against the US war of aggression in Viet Nam, which he considered "the greatest political and strategic blunder in US history."

● Paillard Publishing House in Paris has just brought out a "Black Book on US Crimes in Viet Nam" on the initiative of 35 progressive organizations in France.

● On the occasion of the 16th anniversary of the signing of the Geneva Agreements on Indochina, the Algerian NFL Party, together with mass organizations in Algeria, observed a Week of Solidarity with the Indochinese Peoples. It has issued a statement pointing out that "the struggle of the Vietnamese people against US imperialism and the Saigon puppet regime is a great contribution to the growing liberation movement in Palestine, South east Asia, Africa and Latin America."

● On July 24, 1970 in Tokyo was set up a liaison council whose task it was to help put into effect the resolution of the World Women's Congress in June 1969 on the building a hospital for Viet Nam mothers and babies in the coming 3 years.

● On July 17, 1970 in Berlin the Viet Nam Committee of the GDR held a commemoration ceremony for its founding anniversary. According to Committee sources, in the past five years it has collected over 169.4 million marks for Viet Nam.

MINISTER NGUYEN THI BINH VISITS CEYLON

At the invitation of the Ceylonese Government, a Delegation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam led by Mme Nguyen Thi Binh, its Foreign Minister, arrived in Colombo on July 27, 1970. Thousands of people greeted at the airport the delegation who was welcomed by Felix Dias Bandaranaike, Minister of Public Administration, Local Government and House Affairs, representing the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Pieter Kenneman, Minister of Housing and Construction, Laslie Goonewardena, Minister of Communications, Lakshman Jagakoddy, Junior Minister of Defence and External Affairs, along with diplomatic representatives of the fraternal countries.

In the VIP room, Minister Nguyen Thi Binh conveyed to the Ceylonese people assurances of solidarity and friendship of the South Vietnamese. On behalf of the people, National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet Nam,she expressed sincere gratitude for the warm sympathy and priceless support consistently extended by the Ceylonese to the Vietnamese people's struggle against US aggression, for national salvation.

On July 27, at seven p.m, Ceylonese Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Defence, Sirima Bandaranaike received the Delegation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam. Present at the reception were many Ministers of the Government. Mme Nguyen Thi Binh conveyed to the Prime Minister the high regards of Dr Nguyen Huu Tho, Chairman of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the National Front for Liberation, Chairman of the Advisory Council of the Provisional Revolutionary Government and of Huynh Tan Phat, President of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, and expressed to the Ceylonese Government and people the profound sympathy and strong support of the South Vietnamese people for the efforts of the fraternal Ceylonese people to strengthen their national independence and build a prosperous and progressive country. She sincerely thanked the Ceylonese Government for her recent diplomatic recognition of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, which constituted a great encouragement and support to the South Vietnamese people. Prime Minister Sirima Bandaranaike earnestly inquired about the patriotic fight of the South Vietnamese people against US aggression and reaffirmed the deep sympathy and vigourous support of the Ceylonese Government and people for it. On the following days, Minister Nguyen Thi Binh called on a number of other Ceylonese politicians, laid a wreath at the famous patriotic leader of the Ceylonese people S. Bandaranaike's monument and attended two welcome mass meetings in Colombo.

FIGHTING SIDE BY SIDE WITH THE JAPANESE PEOPLE *against the common enemy*

THE beginning of August next will be as usual marked by the traditional anti-US actions of the Japanese people. For five years, people all the world over have annually observed an International Day of Solidarity with the Japanese people to remind mankind of the Hiroshima (August 6, 1945) and Nagasaki (May 9, 1945) crimes which have made hundreds of thousands of dead and victims of incurable diseases, and show their resolve to confront the common enemy, imperialism headed by Washington.

The Japanese people are more resolute than ever to stay the bloody hands of the US imperialists, and prevent the latter and Japanese reaction from dragging Japan into new catastrophes.

Under the San Francisco Peace Treaty and the US-Japan Security Treaty which is essentially a pact of military aggression, Washington has maintained over 200 military bases on Japanese territory including Okinawa, turning Japan into a US war base in Asia, and a major US logistical base in the aggressive war against Indochina. In implementation of " the Nixon doctrine on Asia", Washington has been bent on preserving its interests in this area by trying to place Japan into US-engineered military blocs, make it participate in the armament race, use Japanese as cannon fodder in the place of GI's and Japanese troops as shock police forces against the national liberation movement in Asia. In his Feb. 18, 1970 report, Nixon made it clear that US-Japanese co-operation was the key to the success of his doctrine on Asia.

The Japanese reactionary authorities' ulterior motive has been to take advantage of US setbacks in the world—especially in South Viet Nam and Asia—and strengthen their collusion with the US on the one hand and expand their economic and political influence in Asia—on the other. They have extended the US-Japan Security Treaty with new amendments to initiate a new phase in the revival and consolidation of Japanese imperialism and militarism. The Japanese militarists have been calling for Japan's military power to be raised proportionately to her economic potential, for the Japanese army to be given atomic weapons and Japanese troops to be sent abroad, especially to Korea and Viet Nam. Applying a "more active foreign policy on Asian problems", the Sato Cabinet instigated other satellites of Washington to set their faces against the Cambodian people and the other Indochinese peoples at the "Djakarta Conference". Sato recently acknowledged he had promised to US Secretary of State Rogers to assist Cambodia and give the Lon Nol clique 2 million - dollar worth of aid (AP - July 16, 1970). In the economic field, with its 10-year plan for the exploitation and development of Asia, Japan plays the principal role in US "Viet Nam post-war economy" and the US plan for the development of the Mekong River. On the other hand, the fact that the US is allowed to go on using Okinawa as a base in the aggression in Indochina proves that the Japanese reactionary authorities are more and more inclined to be US accomplices in the "Vietnamization" and "Indochinization" of the war, i.e. in US policy of continuing the war of aggression, prolonging US military occupation, keeping in power its puppet administrations in Saigon, Phnom Penh and Vientiane and imposing its neo-colonialism on Indochina.

To baffle such dangerous schemes of the US imperialist and the Japanese reactionary authorities, the Japanese people's political battlecries are: "Cancel the US-Japanese Security Treaty", "Unconditional return of Okinawa", combined with claims for democratic liberties and better living standard. Since the beginning of this year, a series of large-scale actions have been staged. The spring drive of 1970 began with demonstrations of 500,000 workers in 227 places. On "Okinawa Day" (April 28) hundreds of thousands of people held rallies in 300 places. The movement flared up on May 9, June 13, 18, 21 and 22, and reached its climax on June 23 with 1,670,000 protestors in 1,200 places all over the country. It was the biggest mobilization of students and trade unionists in 19 years for a protest against the US-Japanese Security Treaty (AFP).

At the same time, the Japanese people have thrown in their lot with the VN people by militating against the Sato administion's assistance to the Pentagon.

Their combat is an important contribution to the common combat of the peoples of Asia and the world against imperialism and old and new-style colonialism headed by Washington. The Anti A and H-bomb World Conference in Tokyo in August every year brings into bolder relief international solidarity with the Japanese.

The South Vietnamese people highly prize the valuable support and great encouragement given by the Japanese people to their struggle against US aggression. They have more than once severely condemned the Japanese reactionary authorities' refusal of visas to South Vietnamese people's delegations to attend the above-mentioned conference. Together with other peoples in the world, they want to voice at this forum their firm opposition to the use of A and H bombs. Their past, present and future destructive attacks on the enemy have earned and will earn the Vietnamese the distinction of being brother-in-arms of the Japanese. They strongly denounce the Japanese authorities as accomplices of US imperialism in the aggression against Viet Nam and in the move to suppress the national liberation movement in Asia. Hailing the 16th International Conference against the A and H bombs, Huynh Tan Phat, President of the PRG of the RSVN, stated in his July 23, 1970 message: "The South Vietnamese people unreservedly support the valiant and patient struggle of the Japanese people against the US and the reactionary Japanese administration who want to supply Japan with atomic weapons and revive Japanese militarism, for the immediate cancellation of the US-Japan Security Treaty, the complete and unconditional return of Okinawa to the Japanese people, the total withdrawal of GI's and the removal of US military bases on Japanese territory, all this as a prelude to the building of an independent, peaceful, democratic and neutral Japan».

One of the Japanese people's thousands of protest actions against « US-Japan Security Treaty » late in June 1970.

SOUTH VIET NAM No 70 August 10, 1970

Published by the NFL Information Commission

Printed in South Viet Nam *Index 12,520*